SEG news release

Society of Exploration Geophysicists

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INTERNATIONAL SEISMIC CREW COUNT

SEISMIC EXPLORATION FOR OIL AND GAS RECORDS
LARGE GAIN INTERNATIONALLY DURING THIRD QUARTER OF 1979

Seismic exploration for oil and gas showed gains during the third quarter of 1979 in most geographical areas around the world, according to the Society of Exploration Geophysicists' most recent quarterly international survey. The number of seismic land crews and marine vessels searching for oil and gas increased between June and September in the United States, Canada, Central and South America, Europe and the Middle East. The worldwide seismic crew and vessel total for September was 793, compared with 731 in June.

The worldwide totals of seismic crews and vessels active during previous quarters were as follows: Third quarter (September) 1976: 621; fourth quarter (December) 1976: 621; first quarter (March) 1977: 635; second quarter (June) 1977: 626; third quarter (September) 1977: 650; fourth quarter (December) 1977: 686; first quarter (March) 1978: 730; second quarter (June) 1978: 738; third quarter (September) 1978: 746; fourth quarter (December) 1978: 744; first quarter (1979) 767; second quarter (1979) 731.

The international survey reflects data reported on seismic oil exploration activity by ninety private and governmental crew operators around the world. Special significance is attached to the figures since seismic crew activity is recognized as the leading indicator of all petroleum exploration activity.

INTERNATIONAL SEISMIC CREW COUNT, SEPTEMBER, 1979

Geographically, seismic exploration for oil and gas during September, 1979, was reported as follows. (Second quarter, June, 1979, figures are shown in parentheses.):

UNITED STATES

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
57 Contractors:	364 (333)	24 (26)
10 Oil Companies:	39 (39)	4 (5)
1 Government:	0 (0)	2 (1)
Totals:	403 (372)	30 (32)

Total Crews and Vessels: 433 (404)

CANADA

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
22 Contractors:	45 (35)	2 (1)
3 Oil Companies:	3 (3)	1 (1)
Totals:	48 (38)	3 (2)

Total Crews and Vessels: 51 (40)

MEXICO

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
6 Contractors:	21*(21)*	3*(3)*
1 Government:	5*(5)*	0*(0)*
0 Oil Companies:	0*(0)	0 (0)
Totals:	26*(26)*	3*(3)*

Total Crews and Vessels: 29*(29)*

CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICA (Other than Mexico)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
10 Contractors:	43 (36)	8 (4)
4 Governments:	14* (7)*	0* (0)*
1 Oil Company:	2* (2)*	0* (1)*
Totals:	59* (45)*	8* (5)*
Total Crews and Vessels:	67*(50)*	

EUROPE

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
12 Contractors:	48* (43)*	16* (17)*
0 Governments:	0 (0)	0 (0)
2 Oil Companies:	4 (4)*	0 (1)
Totals:	52* (47)*	16* (18)*
Total Crews and Vessels:	68*(65)*	

MIDDLE EAST (Including Pakistan)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
7 Contractors:	33 (29)	1 (1)
0 Governments:	0* (0)*	0* (0)*
0 Oil Companies:	0* (0)*	0* (0)*
Totals:	33* (29)*	1* (1)*
Total Crews and Vessels:	34*(30)*	

AFRICA

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
6 Contractors:	41 (40)	3 (3)
1 Government:	2* (2)*	0* (0)*
2 Oil Companies:	11 (11)	1 (0)
Totals:	54* (53)*	4* (3)*
Total Crews and Vessels:	58*(56)*	

FAR EAST (Including all countries east of Pakistan)

	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
10 Contractors:	31 (32)*	11 (9)*
3 Governments:	3 (10)*	2 (1)*
2 Oil Companies:	3* (3)*	3* (2)*
Totals:	37* (45)*	16* (12)*
Total Crews and Vessels:	53*(57)*	

SEPTEMBER TOTALS:	Land Crews	Marine Vessels
U.S.	403 (372)	30 (32)
Canada	48 (38)	3 (2)
Mexico	26* (26)*	3* (3)*
Central & South America	59* (45)*	8* (5)*
Europe	52* (47)*	16* (18)*
Middle East	33* (29)*	1* (1)*
Africa	54* (53)*	4* (3)*
Far East	37* (45)*	16* (12)*
Totals:	712* (655)*	81* (76)*
Total Crews and Vessels:	793*(731)*	

*These totals include estimates from informed industry sources of additional unreported crews and vessels.

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